



January 28, 2014

Representative Kurt Heise, Chairman of the Criminal Justice Committee  
Committee Members, Representatives Graves, Kurtz, Callton, McBroom, O'Brien, Kesto, Oakes,  
Robinson, Kivela and Banks

Anderson House Office Building  
Michigan House of Representatives  
PO Box 30014  
124 N. Capitol Avenue  
Lansing, Mi. 48909

Dear Chairman Heise and members of the House Criminal Justice Committee,

The Friends For the Dearborn Animal Shelter in Dearborn, Michigan are grateful for the wisdom in which our State leaders are proceeding in supporting SB 284/285 to increase penalties for large-scale cruelty cases and domestic violence cases in which animal cruelty is involved.

As you may well imagine, our Sheltering organization is often the recipient of the fortunate animals that arrive in our care after circumstances of abuse. One such instance was a high-profile Chihuahua hoarding case in 2009, in which 105 dogs were rescued. We describe these dogs and the others who come through our doors as the fortunate ones, because they have a second chance at life thanks to the fortune of swift action taken by a citizen or authorities who contributed to their rescue. These are the ones we document, care for, help provide evidence in criminal cases, rehabilitate and help them find new loving homes.

There are countless animals that were victims before them, or didn't survive or will continue to be victims after them, unless more stringent punitive actions are taken to help curtail these forms of abuse.

As a Sheltering organization, we are responsible for being a voice for animals in our care and those in our community on a daily basis. It is with privilege and respect for legislation such as SB 284/285 that we all have the opportunity to help take steps to prevent animal abuse moving forward.

Please support SB 284/285.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elaine Greene". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Elaine" being more prominent than the last name "Greene".

Elaine Greene  
Executive Director